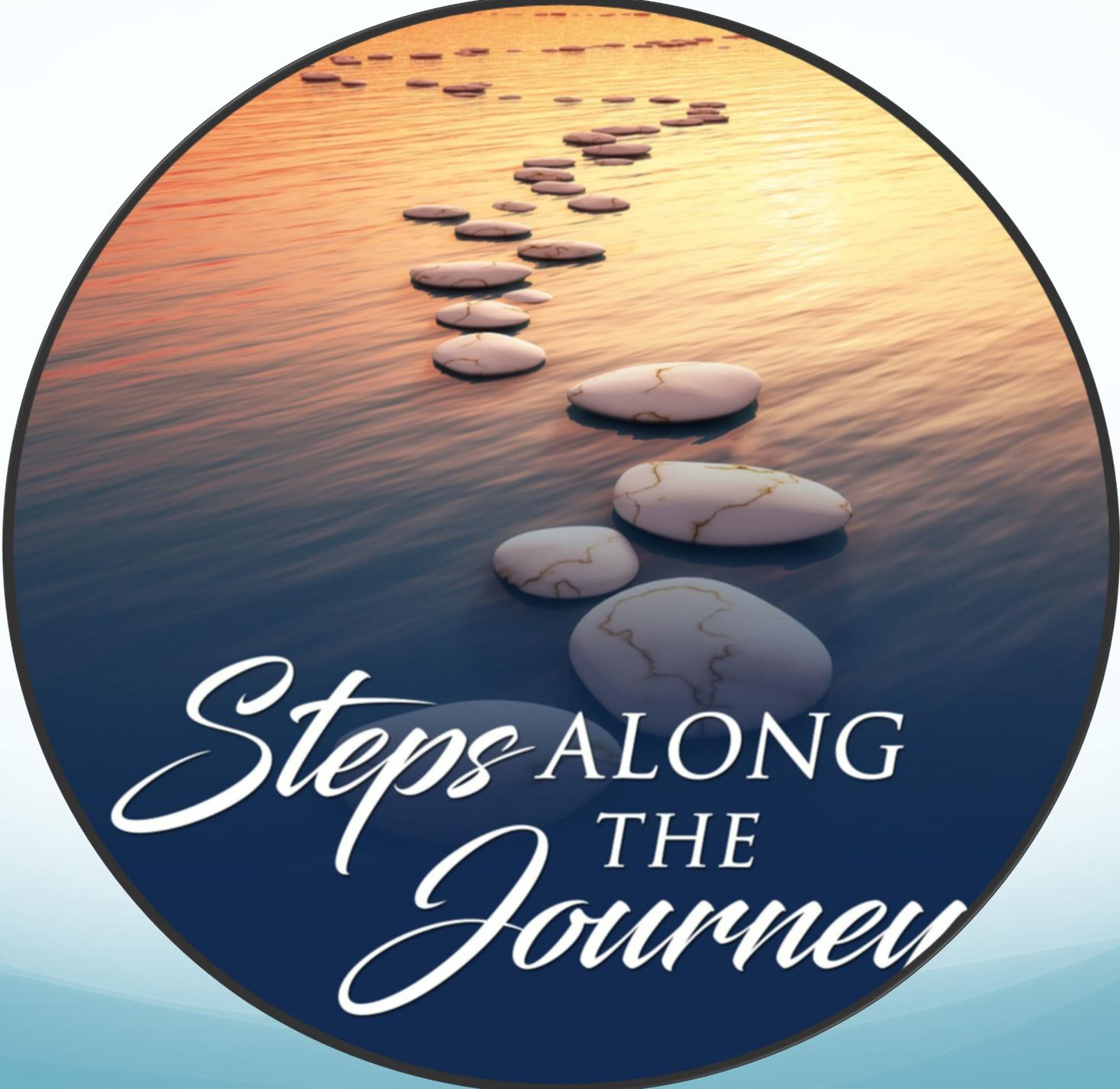




*Supporting Parent Engagement and
Reflection in the Early Intervention
Journey*

**Karen Hopkins,
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Steps ALONG
THE
Journey







Wires...tests....Deaf?



Routines IFSP Cochlear Implants LSL Visual strategies
Communication Opportunities Deaf Deaf Culture
appointments choices ABR goals resources
Sign Support audiologist
outcomes
Oral ASL **FAMILY** Deaf Mentor Early Intervention Schools for the Deaf
therapy appointments evaluations LSL
Listening and Spoken Language assessments
Deaf Culture routines
OAE Deaf
Auditory strategies Hard of Hearing Cued Language
Options Sign IEP Visual
appointments
Therapy Auditory Verbal Home Visits
American Sign Language

NEUROLOGIC EMERGENCY

We encourage you to slow things down....just a bit.....



Early Interactions

- Attachment
- Bonding
- Eye Contact
- Touch.....



Permission to “just be a parent.....”

Sometimes you just need to go to the beach



Strength Search (a learning tool)

- Tell us about your baby
- *Who* are the members of your family
- *What* are your interests (jobs or hobbies)
- *Where* do you get support (friends, neighbors, church)
- *How* do you like to go about tackling a challenge
- *When* do you prefer that others assist you
- *Why* do you prefer certain formats to learn new info

Strength Based Services

- Visits scheduled at family convenience
- Caregivers decide what happens during visit
- Families are recognized for skills and creativity.
- Families are credited for children's success.
- Family members are welcomed to be involved.
- Opportunities given to meet other parents.
- Information provided in multiple venues.



Hopkins, McNally 2009

Based on Brass Tacks, PJ McWilliam, 1991

Checking Back In (a learning tool)

- ✓ What did they tell you
- ✓ What made sense
- ✓ What was confusing
- ✓ What info do you need
- ✓ What will be helpful



Mindfulness.....

- Forget about your day
- Prepare to enter
- Remember past visit
- Recall paperwork
- Be present



Process ~

Collaboration
Decisions

Rapport
Trust

Dialogue
Respect

Opinions

Information

Expectations

Feelings

Moeller,
Brown

Elements of Collaboration

Subtle process

- Becoming a team
- Realizing roles
- Identifying outcomes
- Implementing a plan
- Evaluating progress
- Changing as desired



Blasco, El Services.2001

Recognizing Info & Insight

- How was information exchanged?
- What strengths did you notice?
- What insights were shared?



Starting point....

- Sharing of information
- Resources
- Opportunities
- Connections



Empathic Responses

- Reflecting back
~ It sounds as if ...
- Extending, clarifying
~ Tell me more.
- Questioning open ended
~ What did you think?
- Summarizing, synthesizing
~ It appears that ...



Empathic Responses ~ continued

- Checking perception
~ You seem to be...
- Acknowledging
~ I can appreciate that.
- Encouraging expression
~ How did you feel?

Being quiet

A.G.Bell

Listening and Talking, E. Cole, 1992



Initial decision making

- All options
- Communication Plan – **Parents** write
- Stress Continuous conversation

Remember....its a journey.....



Routines Based Early Intervention

Family routines

- Mealtimes
- Bathtime
- Bedtime
- Shopping
- Play.....



Consider leaving the toy bag at home.....

Reflecting Together

It is important to allow time for families to explore...reflect...change...question...



Sometimes a change is needed.....

- Goodness of fit
- Language Development
- Poor outcomes



Professional should embrace change with the family

Promoting Strengths in families and professionals

Listen

~ Don't tell

Think with them

~ Not for them

Give information

~ Don't insist they use it

Develop options

~ Not ultimatums



Promoting Strengths

Look for the positive
~ Not the negative

Don't say "you're wrong"
~ Determine why they feel they are right

Congratulate their success
~ Don't ask for applause

Follow their agenda
~ Not yours



A final thought from a parent...

“What we really want, really need as parents, is opportunities to contact other families with deaf children, help in making regular contact with adults who are Deaf and Hard of Hearing, information that is accurate, honest, unbiased and fair, and then the emotional support to make decisions.....”





Thank you!

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